

## Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 281

Chapter 281

Chapter 281 Rescuing Yvonne

Beep. Beep. Beep

The phone rang several times, but no one answered.

“Why isn’t he picking up?” Veronica muttered, panicking the entire time.

Since the first call was not answered, she dialed Conrad’s number once more. Alas, he picked up. “Who is this?”

“Uncle Conrad, it’s Veronica. Where are you now? Are you busy?” she asked, questions flying out of her mouth.

“I’m not busy. What is it?”

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Even over the phone, he could sense how anxious she was.

He was certain something had gone wrong.

However, before he answered, he could not help but think about how odd the entire situation was. Why would she call him instead of Matthew?

“Uncle Conrad, Yvie is in trouble. She has been kidnapped. She will be at the international airport soon. Can you come and save her with me?”

She knew what her limits were, so she had to ask Conrad for help.

“Okay. I’ll be there soon.”

After a few more questions about the situation, he hung up.

Nevertheless, Veronica still kept some of Yvonne’s secrets, and she did not mention Zac’s name. Otherwise, Conrad might back out in fear of Zac.

When the call ended, she heaved a sigh of relief and handed the borrowed phone back to the driver. It was then that she realized the driver was staring at her in fear through the rearview mirror.

Sensing that she spoke too loudly earlier, she was speechless for a while.

Crap.

She had just spoken about Yvonne getting kidnapped in the back of his car. Anyone would be afraid upon hearing that.

“Don’t be scared, sir,” she said with a chuckle. “My friends are playing a murder game, and this is their latest script. It’s a very fun game.”

“Oh, I see. Haha. I have heard of that. You scared me just now.” The middle-aged taxi driver had been scared to his wits.

He seemed to have believed in her placating words as he eventually calmed down.

“Kids these days have very interesting games. Isn’t it a little too much to go to the airport for a game?”

“Well, it’s all in the name of fun. Plus, we can claim the expenses.” She always had a great poker face when she was lying. She sounded so frank that her lie was believable.

Soon, her taxi arrived at the airport.

After paying the driver, she then wandered into the airport while listening to the call from Yvonne. What she heard then made her nervous.

“Let me go, Zac. Even if you kidnap me to Castron, I will not marry you. Don’t touch me! I won’t go on the plane.”

Hearing that, Veronica knew they were already somewhere in the airport.

However, she was not a powerful woman. There was no way she could enter the private section of the airport.

Just as she was hesitating, Conrad ran up to her. “Veronica!”

“You’re finally here, Uncle Conrad. Quick. Yvonne is boarding the plane right now. A moment longer and we might be too late.”

She dragged him into the airport as she said so.

“Don’t worry,” said Conrad. “I’ve contacted the crew of the airport. They will find a way to stall them. Still, you must tell me who is trying to kidnap Yvie.”

After all, not everyone could afford a private plane.

Not to mention, an international flight!

“He...”

Her eyes glistened with hesitation. In the end, she caved in. “It’s her fiancée. Well, to be accurate, it is a man her father has betrothed her to, but she doesn’t like him.”

“Stop trying to beat around the bush.” As an ex-policeman, Conrad could tell that Veronica was trying to hide the kidnapper’s identity.

There was no way Veronica could continue lying. She had to respond. Hence, she replied, “It is... Zac Francis.”

“The youngest prince of Castron?”

Conrad knew who Zac was in a second.

There were plenty of people who had the same name, but it was rare to find anyone with as much wealth along with the name.

Veronica responded with a nod sadly.

Yvonne had asked her to keep the engagement a secret, but after what happened today, Conrad was Veronica’s only hope of finding her friend.

While Conrad’s help would be great, revealing the kidnapper’s identity late would only hurt him.

Hence, Veronica did not even try to lie and said, “I know you can’t really lay a finger on him, but you just need to take me inside.”

Even so, she only said that when she saw hesitation flicker through Conrad’s eyes.

It was normal to have bodyguards.

Nevertheless, he would not simply anger the youngest prince of Castron in order to protect the Kings Family.

Even Veronica herself was mildly shaking with fear.

If Yvonne had not rushed to rescue her without hesitation last time, Veronica would not be doing this now.

“Let’s take a look inside first,” Conrad said, not willing to agree to anything yet.

“Okay.”

They entered the airport and headed for the special lane that would let them reach the inside section of the airport as fast as possible.

Conrad had even arranged for someone to lead them straight to the plane.

“Over there,” the crew member said, pointing to the plane they were heading toward.

The door of the plane was still ajar, which meant the plane would not be flying soon.

Hastily, Veronica dashed over, leaving Conrad behind.

Inside the plane were two bodyguards who instantly stood up and stopped her. “Halt! This is a private aircraft. Get out!”

“Oh? A private aircraft? That is impossible. I just saw someone walk in.”

Veronica deliberately acted like a fool to lower their guards, then she struck swiftly. After a few blows, the two men were crumpled on the floor.

When she charged into the cockpit, she saw Yvonne, gagged, and tied to her seat.

Yvonne’s eyes sparkled with joy when she spotted Veronica.

After all, Veronica was a smart woman. She would definitely come to her rescue.

“Are you Zac?”

Veronica glared at the man in a suit, seated next to Yvonne. He had curly, golden hair and a pair of sapphire blue eyes. Combined with his freckles and pale skin, it was obvious that he was a foreigner.

Seeing him, she realized why Yvonne did not like him.

There was nothing special or pretty about him other than his eyes.

“Mind your own business, Miss.”

Zac shot her a contemptuous look while his legs were crossed with a magazine in his lap.

It seemed as though he thought she was in over her head.

“I don’t care about other people’s business, and I don’t even have the energy to. However,” she said, pointing to Yvonne. “She is my friend and I will not let you kidnap her.”

Veronica spoke with such self-righteous anger that she had the air of a great hero.

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### Chapter 282

#### Chapter 282 Conrad Knew Zac

When Yvonne heard that, she teared up from gratitude.

If she were not being tied up, she would have pounced at Veronica to gratefully hug her around the leg.

“Ah, I admire your courage.”

Zac scanned Veronica up and down. Currently, she was dressed in a well-fitted outfit with a red scarf wrapped around her neck. She looked beautiful and sweet with her neatly trimmed hair. It was obvious she was no mere thug.

“If you can defeat them, I’ll let Yvie go,” he said, pointing to the men sitting around him.

Veronica pursed her lips as she scanned the room.

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All of these men were trained fighters who were professional mercenaries at the very least.

However, she had to do whatever it took to rescue Yvonne.

Once she returned this favor, she would never do this again... Well, she would give it a thought before acting if this happened again.

That was what she thought at that moment.

“Okay,” she solemnly said. “This place is too cramped though. Why don’t you guys fight me outside?”

“You’re a brave woman, Miss,” Zac swiftly said in agreement before shooting his bodyguards a look.

After getting the command, four of the burliest men in the group stood up.

“Even so, it is not fair to overwhelm you with our numbers,” he then continued. “You’ll fight them one-on-one. If you defeat all four of them, I’ll do as I said.”

Her lips twitched upon seeing her opponents.

No wonder she had found these men so familiar. She had been questioning her memories since she had never been overseas before.

Pondering on that thought, were these not the men who once kidnapped her and Yvonne?

Furthermore, did he expect her to defeat them all at once?

What a joke!

She could not even defeat one of them.

“To make sure I can fight without fear, please move Yvonne out of the plane while you wait. After all, what if you run in the middle of our fight?”

As Zac had been speaking English the entire time, there was no language barrier between them.

Even so, she did not expect him to speak so fluently as if he was a local.

“No problem.”

Zac was excited to be challenged by a woman. Thus, he excitedly agreed to the deal and led Yvonne out of the plane.

There were only about two dozen steps out of the plane. She racked her brain trying to think of a way to rescue Yvonne.

Although Conrad was here as well, it seemed he only wanted to observe.

While she did not like that attitude, she understood his reasons for it.

Not long after, the few of them left the plane. Standing in the middle of an empty field, she was quivering on the inside as she stared at the mercenaries.

What the fuck was she going to do now?

She shot Yvonne an upset look, intending to signal her to run.

However, Yvonne was looking away from her and had her gaze fixated on Conrad.

He was smoking while the cold wind blew around him.

Well, that might be good. At least, Yvonne will get to know what kind of person Conrad is. Then, she will learn to stay far away from him.

“Girl, stop dawdling.”

The burliest man with a scar on his face stepped forward and spoke in English as he curled a beckoning finger at Veronica. A mocking smirk was plastered on his face.

She remembered him well.

His name was Ben, and he was the leader of the group.

“Come,” Veronica said while ‘calmly’ throwing her bag to the side. As she slowly unwound the scarf from her neck, she thought hard about how she was going to fight these men.

Just then, an unexpected voice piped up.

“It’s been a long time, Zac.”

Such a familiar voice. Wait... isn’t that Conrad?

Holding her scarf in her hand, Veronica froze as undisputed shock flooded her face.

Did he not choose to stay out of this? What was with the change of heart?

“Conrad?”

Zac had not realized Conrad was there until he spoke up due to where they were standing.

It was only when Conrad moved to stand before Zac that the latter recognized the former.

In an instant, Zac let Yvonne go and rushed over to Conrad for an extremely friendly fist bump.

“Why are you here, Conrad?” Zac asked, surprised.

“I was going to ask you that question. Why didn’t you call me when you arrived? Have you forgotten your friend?” Conrad said in a teasing voice.

The two men happily chatted away, ignoring everyone around them.

Recognizing the chance for what it was, Veronica dashed over to Yvonne and removed her gag.

She had expected Yvonne to shout for help from Conrad as soon as she could speak. To her surprise, Yvonne actually said, "Save me, Veronica. I don't want to go to Castron with Zac."

Veronica was speechless.

What the hell!

Was Yvonne blind? Was Conrad invisible?

Was she only asking Veronica for help because she did not want Conrad to be hurt? "Please spare me." Veronica rolled her eyes and shot Yvonne a look, indicating her to ask Conrad for help.

"I can't."

"Zac will kill him," Yvonne whispered with a stomp as tears welled up in her eyes.

Veronica frowned and stopped untying Yvonne's binds. "However, you are not afraid he would kill me?"

"Well, Zac doesn't kill women."

Hearing Yvonne's answer, Veronica did not know what to say.

"Freeze!"

When the bodyguards saw Veronica trying to untie Yvonne, they hurriedly shouted to stop her.

Just then, Zac turned around and said, "Let me introduce you, Conrad. This is my wife, Yvie."

Conrad's eyes followed Zac's finger, and he saw Yvonne staring at him with a pitiful, teary look.

"She is your betrothed? What a coincidence."

"You know her?" Zac was confused at first, but then he came to a realization. "You are here with the girl to stop me from bringing Yvie home with me?"

Conrad glanced back at Yvonne who shook her head at him as if she did not want him to admit it.

"Miss Spencer is the girl's best friend, and I am the girl's uncle. Zac, can you do me a favor and spare her?"

The entire time, Conrad held himself back and did not refer to Yvonne as "Yvie" at all.

"I..."

Stunned, Zac was at a loss on what to do.

After a few moments of hesitation, his cold eyes glanced at Yvonne before turning to bore into Veronica, frowning.

"I'll owe you one for this, and I won't stop you the next time you do this," Conrad said sincerely.

He had met Zac in Castron. Naturally, he knew just how much Zac loved and adored Yvonne.

He should not have interfered with this matter.

However...

Conrad's gaze then shifted to Veronica.

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### Chapter 283

#### Chapter 283 Yvonne Adores Conrad

After a few long pauses, Zac finally acquiesced. "Fine. I will let her go this time because you asked me to. However, there will not be a next time. You can't interfere again, Conrad."

"Of course."

Lifting his wrist to look at the time, Conrad then said, "It's not even eight yet. Let me treat you to some sushi as thanks."

"Sure," Chris swiftly agreed.

"We'll leave you two to catch up, Uncle Conrad." Veronica picked up her bags and dragged the untied Yvonne away. Before anyone could say a word, the two women were already dashing away.

They both ran for a long time before they stopped as if they were afraid Zac would change his mind.

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"Huff. Huff."

Yvonne panted loudly, exhausted by the sprint.

Meanwhile, Veronica glared at her and smacked her on the head. "Girl, is your lust stronger than our friendship? You would rather push me out to die than to let the two of them argue?!"

Love is so stupid.

Veronica did not know what else she could say about the situation.

"Ouch! That hurt." Yvonne pouted as her hands moved to cover the spot where she was hit. "Don't be angry. I know Zac well. He would never lay a hand on a woman, but he would also never hold back against a guy. I like Conrad, so I tried to protect him."

Veronica felt so disgusted that she did not know how to explain the anger in her.

"Fine. I won't be saving you again." She huffed and walked away.

“Don’t worry. I will not be asking you for help anyway. Everyone has their limits. Although Zac would not lay a hand on a woman, I’m afraid he would start playing tricks on you.”

Yvonne walked with Veronica by her side. Subsequently, the former pulled her jacket tighter around herself and continued, “Would you have ignored me if I had not saved you last time?”

“Of course.”

Veronica pulled her bag higher. “I am not a saint. How can I risk death to save you when I am already in a tough position? It’s impossible.”

“Oh, I just love how straightforward you are,” Yvonne replied with a laugh. “Let us get sushi as well. Wait, no. Why don’t we get some BBQ skewers? It’ll be my treat.”

Yvonne wrapped an arm around Veronica’s shoulders as they walked out of the airport. They then took a taxi back to the city.

Inside the taxi, Yvonne was deep in thought as she fidgeted with her shirt.

“What are you thinking about?” Veronica casually asked.

Yvonne bit her lip and blushed. “Roni, do you think Conrad likes me too? Why else would he wade into danger to save me?”

“Oh, for goodness...”

“I know you’re the one who called him, but he actually wanted to save me even though he knew my kidnapper was Zac. This situation is totally different.”

As she spoke, there was a happy yet shy smile on her face while her fingers linked tightly together.

“So, do you plan on giving yourself to him as thanks?” Veronica asked with a raised eyebrow and a smirk.

“If he is willing, I have no problem with that,” Yvonne replied with a smile.

“You haven’t known him for long, yet you want to marry him. Don’t you think you are rushing it? Oh, perhaps you are more loyal to your lust for pretty men and that is all you care about.”

Still, Veronica had to admit that Conrad was very handsome. He exuded a unique, mature aura that made him unforgettable.

Even so, she was surprised to see Yvonne fall to Conrad despite having only known him for a short amount of time.

Wow. If Zac found out Yvonne fancied Conrad, their friendship would be destroyed.

Yvonne looked away and leaned back against her seat.

Just as Veronica thought she was never going to answer the question, Yvonne blurted, “I don’t care if I’m rushing it. I like him.”

What a blunt way of admitting her affections for Conrad. That meant she was truly mesmerized by him.

“You...”

Veronica really wanted to tell her to move on.

Conrad was not a man to be underestimated. Despite having only spent a few years overseas, he was now close friends with Prince Zac.

He was dangerous.

However, she could not bring herself to say anything when she saw how deeply in love Yvonne was.

The two of them grabbed some food before heading back to their respective homes.

Although Yvonne was still worried about Conrad, she waited until it was past 11 o’clock before messaging him, ‘Are you asleep?’

Since Conrad had gone for sushi with Chris, she was worried that messaging him too early would risk letting Zac know about them.

After she sent the message, Yvonne lay on her bed and stared up at her ceiling. Her mind kept replaying what happened earlier that evening, and a smile slowly spread across her lips.

Ding!

A reply was received

She quickly grabbed her phone. ‘No. Today must have been quite terrifying for you.’

She did not think he would reply that soon.

Her heart skipped as she looked down at the message filled with concern and love. ‘Thank you for your help, and Roni’s. If you had not come to my rescue, I would already be in Castron.’

‘Don’t mention it.’

‘How could I not? You saved my life. Why don’t I treat you to a meal as thanks when you are free?’

‘I would be honored.’

‘Then, it’s settled.’

The last response to her messages was an ‘okay’ and the conversation ended there.

She rolled around in her bed, unable to sleep. All she saw when she closed her eyes was Conrad’s handsome face which made her heart pound.

With her phone clasped tightly in her hand, she eventually typed out a message, 'Do you have a girlfriend?'

However, on second thought, she erased it.

A few seconds later, she drafted up another message, 'Have you ever thought of being in a relationship?'

"No, that's too forthright," she mumbled to herself before erasing it as well.

The final message she sent read, 'Do you have someone you like?'

There was no reply to her message.

She could not help but let her imagination roam free as she felt anxious about the message. After a lot of tossing and turning, she finally fell asleep late into the night.

...

Back in her apartment, Veronica was huddled in her bed with her laptop after her shower.

She was currently chatting with the staff of Vincere Games about work when Matthew messaged her.

'The Kings' family dinner is happening the day after tomorrow. Remember to attend.'

The Kings' family dinner?

'Okay.' Veronica replied without thinking too much about the event.

She had always been someone of little words as if saying a word more was a waste of her time.

On the other end of the conversation, Matthew was standing before a large window in the President's Office in Spinfluence Group. The ability to look over the city made one feel powerful, but everything he did when it came to Veronica seemed useless.

No matter what he did, she did not care for his attempts.

Staring down at Veronica's one-word reply, he hesitated as his hands clenched around his phone. He did not know what to say, so he stopped sending her further messages.

He then went back to work. After a long evening of working, he was finally done.

However, as he drove home, he could not resist driving over to Veronica's place.

Matthew stepped out into the cold, leaned against his car, and silently took out a cigarette to smoke as he got lost in his thoughts.

## Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 284

### Chapter 284

#### Chapter 284 Concurrently Dating Two Women

Veronica was busy with the operations of her bridal company the next morning when her assistant, Shirley, knocked on the door and entered. "Veronica, there's someone looking for you."

As she was in the midst of her errands, Veronica raised her head. "Who?"

"Young Master Xavier," Shirley replied.

"Let him in."

Veronica couldn't understand Xavier at times. She had previously hurt him and his sister at the warehouse, which had maimed Melissa. As a result, Hendric had immense hatred for her, so why would he allow Xavier to look for her this time?

When she thought about the time at the hospital's stairwell and

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Hendric's eventual assault on Xavier, she could not help but feel somewhat complicated.

"President Murphy, what are you busy with?"

While she was pondering on the reason behind Xavier's visit, Xavier had entered the office.

"What President Murphy? Are you trying to tease me?" Veronica laughed as she gestured at the couch. "Come, let me grab you a glass of water."

She rose to her feet and walked to the water dispenser where she made him a glass of tea. Then, she went over and sat across from him. "What brings you to Encounters today?"

Ever since Encounters Bridal Store was opened, Xavier had never paid her a visit here.

"I have a friend who is about to be married, so I have recommended her to visit your store. That being said, since we have such a close friendship, you need to give a discount," he slowly answered as he took the glass and sampled the tea.

Although he was asking her to give a discount, he was actually recommending clients to her store in reality.

As such, she was grateful. "That won't be a problem. It's not a big deal."

Veronica had a slight smile as she slowly lowered her head, after which her expression adopted a solemn mood. Then, she asked, "Um... About your sister... Is she much better now?"

She had been forced to do what she did that day, but never once did she feel that she had owed Melissa anything. Melissa was a young girl who located someone to humiliate Tiffany at Tiffany's own wedding by broadcasting that gauche video—all because she liked Matthew.

As a result, Veronica couldn't help but feel that such a woman was cruel and vicious.

Xavier's hand that held the glass of tea paused for a second while there was a slight flicker of light in his eyes. "She's gradually recovering, but the doctor mentioned that she won't be able to dance anymore in the future."

"It's such a pity," Veronica sighed with emotion.

At that, she realized that he was silent and knew that he did not want to elaborate further on this matter.

Then, she changed the topic. "Since you're already here, don't leave just yet. Why don't we have lunch together? At the same time, you can guide me with some pointers on managing a bridal store. How about that?"

"Since you have said it, I can't reject your request, can I?"

After that, Xavier walked to the desk and perused Veronica's operation plan while holding a discussion with her.

When the clock struck 12.00PM, the two of them left the office and headed straight for a Turkish restaurant. However, when they were about to make a move, Matthew arrived at the Encounters Bridal Store.

As he walked into the lobby, he noticed all of the employees were off on their lunch break except for the receptionist, who was still on duty.

When she saw him approaching her, she quickly walked toward him. "President Kings, what brings you here?"

Matthew was wearing a plaid trench coat that was complemented with a gray scarf around his neck, making him look slightly younger and even more handsome. His overall profile gave him an additional touch of attraction.

"Where's Roni?" he asked as he looked around.

"You mean, President Murphy? S-She just left with Young Master Xavier to most likely catch a bite," Shirley replied with full honesty and told Matthew the truth.

However, she did not notice the man's cold gaze when she spoke.

"Shirley, right?" Matthew walked to the couch at the side and took a seat while pointing at Shirley to follow suit.

As Shirley did not know what was going on, her voice trembled as she asked, "President Kings, is there anything you want me to do for you?"

"I'm fine, but I'm a tad bit worried for Roni. She's from the countryside and isn't well aware of how cunning people can be. I'm worried." He frowned slightly and sighed as there was solemnity in his tone.

It was enough to render Shirley confused because she thought that Matthew and Veronica had a feud with each other. Why does it look like it isn't the case? If that's not the case, why were the orders that we received before all canceled?

She was doubtful.

Just a mere glance at her expression was enough to tell Matthew what the woman thought. Then, he explained, "Handling a bridal store is somewhat like an experience for Roni. She can't even manage a small bridal store if she doesn't rely on others. A big responsibility in the future would only create more embarrassment for her."

After listening to his elaboration, Shirley suddenly realized something and immediately gave him a thumbs up. "Wow, President Kings, you are really far-sighted. No wonder we suddenly lost our business after operating so well. What you just mentioned makes sense. It is only through experience that Veronica is able to mature and improve. Sigh, you are being so kind to her, but why didn't you tell her about your intentions?"

Those words from Matthew were from the bottom of his heart.

However, while he was training Veronica, what he considered was not just relieving her psychological burden, but to remove people's perception of her as relying on the Kings Family for support. At the same time, he hoped that such a method would force her to submit to him.

It was just that he never expected Veronica to be such a tenacious and persistent woman.

"You must not let her know about this. Otherwise, judging from her indolence, there's a fear that she won't work this hard. So, Shirley, in the future, you have to inform me immediately if anything happens to Roni."

So much foreshadowing had occurred previously, only to buy support.

Shirley responded, "Ahhh... I can't do that, President Kings. That would mean I'm betraying Veronica."

"Roni's current situation isn't as simple as you think it is. As her godbrother, I have the duty to... protect her."

"Gosh, President Kings, you are so benevolent. I'm exceptionally envious since it'd be so nice to have a godbrother like you." Jealousy was dancing in her bright eyes, but then she heard the man speaking again.

"If you need anything in the future, just let me know. You are Roni's assistant, which means you're part of the family."

The phrase 'part of the family' convinced Shirley in a matter of minutes. She hurriedly nodded. "Um, okay. For Veronica's sake, if I need anything, I'll inform you immediately."

Ding. Dong.

There was a notification for a WhatsApp message.

Conrad, who was in the midst of settling company matters, took his phone and noticed that it was Yvonne who texted him. '5.00PM tonight at Hilton Restaurant. I'll be waiting for you at Room 88.'

She had reserved a room in advance just to invite him for a meal.

When he saw the message, there was calmness as he stoically replied, 'I will arrive on time.'

After sending the text, he took his device and searched for a person's profile in the WhatsApp contact list.

He was looking for Tiffany's inbox, after which he tapped on the keyboard with his slender fingers and drafted a message. 'Tiffy, are you free tonight?'

A response came almost immediately after Conrad sent the message.

'Yeah, I am.'

'That's perfect. I'll wait for you at 6.00PM tonight at the Hilton Restaurant.'

It was after he scheduled a time with the other party that he returned to his work. Yvonne, who had invited him, and Tiffany, who had been invited, both did not know that he was meeting them at the same time.

Meanwhile, over at Hilton Restaurant, Xavier and Veronica were having their lunch and she had the habit of sitting by the window. Yet, nobody could have known that they would be joined by two others while placing their orders.

## Her Billionaire Husband Chapter 285

### Chapter 285

#### Chapter 285 A Private Battle

"What a coincidence, Miss Murphy, Young Master Xavier. You guys are also here to have a meal?"

The moment Ruka spoke, both of them turned their heads and saw her in a lacy black skirt with an outer coat that was made from animal fur. Not only that; she was even holding Matthew's wrist.

Veronica's eyes zoomed in on Ruka's hand that was on Matthew's wrist and found it irritating. She was cursing herself for such bad luck in her heart since she never expected that she would run into Ruka and Matthew at such a place.

What a small place Bloomstead was.

Xavier coldly raised his head, but didn't look at Ruka. Rather, his fierce gaze met Matthew's cold eyes. "Since you are here with such beauty, President Kings, Roni and I won't interrupt you guys."

As a fellow man, he knew Matthew's thoughts all too well, which was why he decided to block their path of escape.

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"Yes, yes. Since you are having a date with Miss Dame, we won't be interrupting you guys. Since it is a couple's date, it's better for you guys to head to the private room instead," Veronica quickly added for the fear that Matthew would sit next to them and ruin an innocent meal.

Hilton Restaurant was one of the top restaurants in Bloomstead. Although it was not gigantic in size, it had a quiet and exquisite ambience, which drew both the middle and upper class to visit the place often. Yet, not many people chose to have their meals here.

When Matthew looked at Veronica, there was a trace of luster and resentment in his dark eyes. It was as if to say that she would always treat him to eggs and milk. If not those two items, it would be the cheapest dish that she could purchase at One Piece Restaurant. Why is it that she's treating Xavier at the upper class restaurant like Hilton Restaurant?

Such a stark difference in behavior was enough to irritate him.

"It's better to be alone than with someone," he commented before looking at Ruka. "Ruka, do you mind that we share a table?"

It was evident that Veronica and Xavier were seated there, but Matthew turned the tables on them and did not allow them to speak since he knew that he would be rejected, regardless of who asked.

Ruka turned to the side and her beautiful, angelic eyes gazed at the noble man in front of her as she felt the arrogance that he had in front of Veronica. Such a feeling only left her feeling awful.

Yet, she nodded. "Since I'm well acquainted with both Young Master Xavier and Miss Murphy, I won't mind us sharing a table."

"Hang on a minute." It was enough for the unhappy Veronica to protest. "Excuse me, you should be asking for permission from me and Xavier." Are you treating me as invisible?

"Roni, you are being sneaky again." The corners of Matthew's lips curved upward into a smile as he spoke gently, but there was an element of tenderness in it.

Then, he directly took a seat next to Xavier while Ruka sat next to Veronica, which left the both of them feeling squashed.

Ruka found herself swearing, I have never lowered myself to such a level, except ... this time.

"Hello, what would you guys like to order?" When she noticed Matthew and Ruka, the waitress came over and handed the menus to them.

He did not accept the menu, but rather instructed, "The same as what those two are having."

"Sir, what they have ordered is the couple's meal," she explained.

Hearing that, Matthew's expression dimmed. He was so displeased that he answered, "It doesn't matter."

Since he had arrived at such a decision, Ruka had no choice but to follow his order and closed the menu while saying to the waitress, "In that case, a set of the couple's meal, please."

Although it was forced on her, at least she was dining it with him. Even if she was dissatisfied with him, she could only silently endure it.

"I will make it clear. Since you guys were adamant on joining our table, you... you will have to pick up tonight's tab," an arrogant Veronica noted as she glared at him before snorting.

"What did you say? I didn't hear it clearly." Matthew narrowed his eyes and shot a warning in her direction as if he wanted to threaten her with something.

She then subconsciously thought of what happened last night.

Before she could even answer Matthew's words, she heard the people at the next table having a discussion. "You know, when I had my meal at One Piece Restaurant earlier today, officers from the Bureau of Consumer Protection and the Health Safety Department conducted their checks there. I think it must have been something serious."

"Oh, really?"

"That's right; I heard that someone reported that the restaurant has overcharged diners."

"Well, it is true that the dishes at One Piece Restaurant are expensive."

"There is a reason for it, I'm sure. The chefs that the restaurant has hired have prepared dishes for the state banquets. All of their ingredients are guaranteed to be the freshest and the best. Not to mention, it is all sourced from natural methods without the use of additives. What you pay is what you get."

...

Veronica suddenly felt guilty when she heard the conversation. When she looked at Matthew again, she noticed that he had a fiercer glance, which left her resting on pins and needles.

She tried to flatter him. "Hehehe, since we have bumped into each other, how can I allow you to pick up the tab? Let me pay for tonight's meal."

When she brought Xavier over for the meal, she had intentionally perused the meal while the waitress clearly informed that there were discounts today, such as the couple's package being offered at half its normal rate.

As a result, Veronica was still alright if she had to pay for it.

"President Kings, you've brought your girlfriend out for a meal and Roni has to pick up the tab for you. Don't you think you are being a bit insincere?" Xavier took the glass of water on the table and sipped on it before he commented lightly.

"It's the thought that counts." Ruka didn't allow Matthew the opportunity to answer as she immediately responded, "Don't you think it'd be exhausting to be calculative with everything in life?"

"Is that so? Miss Dame, you must be an open-minded person." Xavier's mouth twitched slightly as he observed her with a complicated expression.

Veronica, who had her head lowered, raised her head and caught him peering at her. She mysteriously felt that his look was sending chills down her spine.

After a while, the meals were delivered to their table one by one—foie gras, salad, cuttlefish ink pasta, beef wellington, and a bottle of red wine.

Now that he was ready to eat, Xavier held his cutleries and sliced the steak before speaking loudly, "Eat this, Roni." He then reached out and placed a sliced steak on her plate.

Such a meticulous gesture had moved Veronica, but it also left her feeling distressed. She had repeatedly expressed her feelings toward him as she never fancied him but as long as he wanted to glue himself to her in enthusiasm, there was nothing she could do.

As those things surfaced in her mind, the first thing that she saw when she raised her head was not Xavier, but Matthew. She only saw Matthew's emotionless gaze and his lackadaisical posture.

Ruka gave a slight smile. "Matthew, look at how Young Master Xavier adores Veronica."

Such a description seemed to have unintentionally reminded Matthew that he couldn't adore anyone in the same way that Xavier treated Veronica.

However, when she heard it, she felt uncomfortable and immediately replied, "Did you hear it or not? Miss Dame is suggesting that you are not capable enough of looking after others. Heck, you are not even helping to slice the steak for her. Better make sure that Miss Dame doesn't ditch you for another. Otherwise, you'd be a loner until your old age by then."

After saying that, she set aside her cutleries and added, "Excuse me for a second. I need to head to the ladies."

Since she saw that the trio were upset, she wanted to search for somewhere quiet to calm down.

When Ruka saw that Veronica was leaving, she also placed her cutleries down and removed the napkin on her lap. "I'll go with her."